

*Plant the  
buffer that  
works  
for you.*



See  
what's new  
for 2022!

## Maryland's Conservation Buffer Initiative

**Applications Accepted January 10 - February 18, 2022**

Back by popular demand, Maryland's **Conservation Buffer Initiative** provides farmers with attractive incentive payments to plant streamside buffers on farms to protect water quality.

**New this year**, farmers can receive up to \$4,500 an acre to install riparian forest buffers with pasture fencing. Financial assistance is also available to install deer fencing next to grass buffers. Other features include a buffer option for field ditches, flexible site management, and shorter contract terms.

Three types of buffers are eligible for funding and free technical assistance from local soil conservation districts: **riparian forest buffers**, **grass buffers** planted next to waterways or field ditches, and **watercourse access control areas** adjacent to pastures.

- Payment rates range from \$500/acre for an existing grass buffer to a maximum of \$4,500/acre to install a riparian forest buffer with pasture fencing.
- Financial assistance is offered to install deer fencing next to grass buffers.
- Mowing and hay harvesting are allowed; nutrient applications are not.
- Farmers receive a one-time payment for enrolled land; contracts are for 5 or 10 years.
- All work must be completed by June 30, 2023.

### How to Apply for our Grants

You'll find everything you need on our website including payment options, application forms, and eligibility criteria. You can email your application or send it through the mail. Applications accepted January 10-February 18, 2022. Need help? Contact your local soil conservation district for free assistance.

**Go directly to the website: [bit.ly/MDA\\_Buffer](https://bit.ly/MDA_Buffer)**